

SUNDAY
AFTERNOON
EDITION

The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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March 13 1915, Temperature 6 a.m. 65. 2 p.m. 75
Humidity 75

WEATHER FORECAST
FINE
Barometer 30.10

March 13, 1914 Temperature 6 a.m. 72 p.m. 68
Humidity 97 97

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SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1915.

第四十三號三第 SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS
\$36 PER ANNUM.

TO-DAY'S LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

THREE PRUSSIAN SQUADRONS EXTERMINATED.

BRITISH TROOPS MARKED PROGRESS.

Belgians Increasing Their Advantage.

SWEDISH STEAMER TORPEDOED OFF SCARBOROUGH.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

Death of Count Witte.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd reports the death of the Russian statesman, Count Sergius Witte.

Passengers from the Guadeloupe.

Reuter's Buenos Aires correspondent states that the steamer Churchill has brought to Pernambuco 143 passengers from the French liner Guadeloupe, which was sunk by the Kronprinz Wilhelm off Fernando Noronha.

From Sir John French.

Field Marshal Sir John French's Bulletin of March 13 says: A little further progress has been made to-day, by the Seventh Division, towards Aubers. The fighting was most severe, as the enemy was strongly re-inforced this morning, opposite my right, by at least two divisions.

We captured 612 prisoners, and there are more to come in.

Activity of British Aircraft.

Our aircraft have been most active and have destroyed the junctions at Don and Douai.

Russians Keeping the Enemy in Hand.

A Petrograd communique says:—The enemy's offensive along the front Ormulo-Orijitz-Franysz, has been kept well in hand. We made a series of vigorous counter-attacks between Gorlice and the Lupkow Pass.

The Austrians who crossed the right bank of the Sedkowka were bayoneted. Three companies were surrounded, and surrendered.

Important Seizures by the Russians.

The communique proceeds:—Our flank attack in the region of the principal Austrian offensive has been most successful. We captured the villages of Smolnik and Lupkow, and the surrounding heights, together with two howitzers, two field guns, seven quick-firers and four thousand prisoners.

Three Prussian Squadrons Exterminated.

The communique further states:—The Don Oosacks in East Galicia have exterminated three squadrons of Prussian hussars. Only thirty-five survived, who are prisoners.

The enemy made fresh desperate attacks in the regions of Rabbe and Koziowka, but were repulsed with immense losses.

Marked Progress by British.

March 13, 5.20 p.m.

According to a Paris communique, the British continue to make progress. They have crossed the brook of Layes, running parallel to the road from Neuvechappelle to Fleurbaix. They have captured several trenches between the road and Aubers. At dusk they reached the road called "The Street of Hell," running north-west to south-east, towards Aubers, to a suburb of the latter.

TO-DAY'S LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

British Make Important Captures.

The communique adds that the British also carried several groups of houses, south-westwards of Pietre, which had been organised for defensive purposes. The total number of prisoners captured during the day was a thousand. Several machine-guns were also taken.

Allies' Continued Progress.

March 13, 5.25 p.m.

A communique says:—The French on the left, and the British on the right, supported an action by the heaviest artillery, machine-gun and infantry fire.

We continued our progress in Champagne, and took 150 prisoners on the northern slopes of the Meunil ridge.

German Attack Prevented.

The Germans, after a violent bombardment, attempted to attack Reichackerkopf, but were stopped dead by our fire.

Belgians Obtaining Good Results.

The communique also states that the Belgian army, on the bend of the Yser has consolidated, and has increased the results obtained on Thursday.

Swedish Steamer Torpedoed.

March 13, 6.55 p.m.

A Swedish steamer has been torpedoed off Scarborough. Six persons were drowned.

700 German Prisoners.

March 12, 5.45 p.m.

Field Marshal French, in his bulletin, states that the situation from Armentieres to Labasse has been materially altered by a successful initiative made at 8 a.m. on the 10th, when we carried the German trenches in the neighbourhood of Neuvechappelle.

The co-operation of the artillery and infantry was very good, consequently the losses were not great in proportion with the results achieved.

We captured the whole village at noon and the infantry confirmed and extended the advantage gained.

150 prisoners were brought to headquarters during the day and there are probably more to follow.

The enemy on the 11th, repeated his counter-attacks but these were all repulsed with heavy losses.

We continue to make steady progress, but hard fighting is proceeding.

The Germans' further counter-attacks last night were easily repulsed by the Fourth and Indian Corps, with heavy losses, also the Third Corps in a night attack captured the village of Epinette, with slight loss.

Fog is hindering the operations to-day.

Additions to Contraband List.

March 12, 6.5 p.m.

The "Gazette" publishes the following addition to the list of articles which are absolute contraband:—Raw wool, wool tops, wools, woollen and worsted yarns, tin, castor oil, paraffin wax, copper, iodide, lubricants, hides, skins, ammonia and compounds; and conditional contraband:—Tanning substances and all kinds of oleaginous seeds, nuts, kernels, animal and vegetable fats and oils.

The French Expeditionary Force.

March 12, 6.5 p.m.

Reuters' correspondent at Paris says an official report states that the Dardanelles expeditionary force concentrated in North Africa will be commanded by General Damade. It consists partly of Algerians and partly of troops from France. A portion of it is already en route.

A Small German Fort Captured.

March 13, 1.25 a.m.

A Paris evening communique states that east of Lombardzyde we captured a German fort a hundred metres in front of our trenches. The British occupied the hamlet of Epinette, three kilometres east of Armentieres.

Progress of the British sector at Neuvechappelle was continued, after repulsing two strong counter-attacks.

The British seized part of the German lines between the hamlet of Pietre Mill and Pietre, and took 400 prisoners, including five officers.

March 13, 1.30 a.m.

A later communique states: In the Champagne district on Thursday evening we captured before the ridge, north-east of Mesnil, several of the enemy's trenches and took prisoners, including some officers.

We made slight progress on Friday in the same region and occupied several trenches further west, parallel with the Tahure road.

We repulsed a night counter-attack at Reichackerkopf and advanced 200 yards.

TO-DAY'S LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

Auxiliary Cruiser Bayano Sunk.

March 13, 2.15 a.m.

The Admiralty reports that the auxiliary cruiser Bayano was lost while patrolling.

Wreckage and bodies were found on the 11th, the circumstances pointing to the Bayano having been torpedoed. Eight officers and 18 men were rescued, the remainder were probably lost.

The Belfast steamer, Castleragh, reports passing wreckage and bodies at 4 o'clock on Thursday morning, but was prevented from searching by the enemy's submarine, which chased the vessel for twenty minutes.

An Unofficial Report.

March 13, 3.25 a.m.

The Admiralty reports that four officers and 22 men were rescued.

Unofficial reports state that the Bayano was torpedoed at nine o'clock in the morning off Crosewell Point, Wigtownshire. She sank almost immediately and two hundred perished.

A Belfast collier landed the survivors at Ayr on Thursday evening.

The s.s. Castleragh took refuge from a submarine at Ballintrae near Fortrush.

Germans Husbanded their Shell.

March 13, 3.50 a.m.

An official telegram from Petrograd announces that the bombardment of Osowice is weakening. The Germans are husbanding their shell and fired only for two hours on the 11th.

The German offensive on the Russian positions at Prasnyez is of the most cautious character.

The artillery is active but the infantry is entrenching.

The Dardanelles Bombardment.

March 13, 12.10 p.m.

A Paris official message states that during unfavourable weather on Wednesday the British battleships bombarded the Balair defences and light batteries commanding Morte Bay at the entrance of the Dardanelles.

The French squadron continued its operations on Thursday.

China and Japan.

March 13, 4.35 p.m.

In the House of Commons, the Hon. Neil Primrose, replying to Mr. P. A. Molteno said that the Japanese demands in China fall into two categories. The larger constituted an attempt to settle questions which had been outstanding for years, the smaller one was an attempt to ascertain China's attitude if Japan formulated certain demands on Germany at the end of the war. The latter, as contingent demands, cannot be described as violating the principle of the treaty between the Allies, that none should formulate demands till the end of the war. Generally speaking, the British Government had no objection to the expansion of Japanese interests in China provided that the expansion did not prejudice British interests. We admitted that would not apply to any concessions in China which would affect the South Manchurian Railway, and we naturally expect that Japan will show reciprocity and not apply for concessions which affect British interests. If there is any reason to suppose that the Chinese-Japanese negotiations cannot be settled by diplomatic methods, and if there was a prospect of developments that might impair the independence and integrity of China, then no doubt consultations would take place to see how, and what was due to Japan could be secured without impairing the independence and integrity of China, which is one of the objects of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

It was impossible to enter into the details of the Japanese demands because they were communicated confidentially, but the hon. member could, however, assure Mr. Molteno that the Government was fully alive to the importance of British commercial interests in China and would do their utmost to secure them intact.

(Havas Telegram)

Allies' Progress in Belgium.

French stock now stands at 71.55.

Yesterday a dense fog hampered the operations at numerous points. In Belgium the situation of the Allies is of the best. We progressed sensibly, West of Perthes, in spite of stubborn resistance by the Germans.

The Chamber of Deputies passed the incorporation of the 1916 class under the colours. The Senate has passed the bill authorizing the Government to withdraw the naturalization duties conferred on peoples who are subjects of Enemy Powers.

General Damade, commander in chief of the Expeditionary corps, left to join Naval Forces in the Near East.

[No Special Edition of the Telegraph was issued this morning, as no telegrams arrived over night to justify our so doing.]

THE CIGARETTE AND TOBACCO FUND.

How the Tobacco goes to the Front.

We have received the following letter from Mr. G. J. B. Sayer, the Hon. Secretary of the above fund:—

To the Editor,

Hongkong Telegraph.

Dear Sir,—Will you be good enough to insert the following for the information of the subscribers to the fund, as my committee desires me to give full particulars as to the manner the money is disbursed, and how the cigarettes and tobacco are forwarded to the front and trenches.

Hitherto the consignments were sent direct from Hongkong by the P. & O. Co. through the courtesy of Hon. Mr. Hewitt, C. M. G., freight free, but owing to the length of time taken in transit, it was thought better to have the consignments sent direct from the factory. This is now done and the manager of the British American Tobacco Co., Ltd. wires home the orders free of cost, and the consignments are sent direct from the factory—addressed to the D. D. O. S. Arsenal, London, for transmission to the base.

The cost of the Woodbine Cigarettes is £1.00 per 3000 and the plug tobacco 11d per lb, which are the same rates as charged to those who send from home.

On each consignment is marked "A Present from Hongkong" so that our brave Allied Forces may know that we are thinking of them whilst fighting our battle.

On each consignment being despatched a letter is forwarded to the following London Papers giving them information of the quantities sent viz:—

Manager—Lloyds Weekly
Manager—Reynolds News-
paper
Manager—The Peoples News-
paper
Manager—News of the World
Manager—Daily Mirror.

My Committee beg to thank those who so generously contributed to the fund, and trust others will send their subscriptions to help the good cause and to enable them to keep the supplies going during this terrible war.

Subscriptions will be received by either morning or evening papers, members of the committee, of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer and such subscriptions will be acknowledged as hitherto.

The amount sent to date to the Front and Trenches:—

705,000 Cigarettes (5,000 Egyptian Cigarettes presented by Messrs. Dadooglou Bros. out of the above being sent to the Base Hospital for the sick and wounded).

1948 lbs of Plug Tobacco.

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